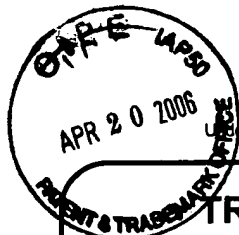


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PTO/SB/21 (04-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)		Application Number	10/700,721
		Filing Date	11/04/2003
		First Named Inventor	Hideki Seki, et al.
		Art Unit	3753
		Examiner Name	John K. Ford
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	4041J-000804

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Technology Center (TC) <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Return Receipt Postcard
Remarks: The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 08-0750. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm or Individual name	Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.	Attorney Name	Michael J. Schmidt
		Reg. No.	34,007
Signature			
Date	April 20, 2006		

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.			
Typed or printed name	Michael J. Schmidt	Express Mail Label No.	EV 853 856 105 US (4/20/2006)
Signature		Date	April 20, 2006

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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EV 853 856 105 US



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/700,721
Filing Date: 11/04/2003
Applicant: Hideki Seki, et al.
Group Art Unit: 3753
Examiner: John K. Ford
Title: VEHICLE AIR CONDITIONER
Confirmation: 2257
Attorney Docket: 4041J-000804

Director of The United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed March 22, 2006, Paper No./Mail Date 03172006, please consider the following.

The Examiner has required an election of species pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 121 to one of the following patentably distinct species:

- I. The species beginning on page 11, line 16 of the specification;
- II. The species beginning on page 36, line 11 of the specification;
- III. The species beginning on page 38, line 5 of the specification;
- IV. The species beginning on page 40, line 13 of the specification;

- V. The species beginning on page 41, line 8 of the specification;
- VI. The species beginning on page 46, line 24 of the specification; and
- VII. An in-determinant number of additional (un-illustrated) species described on page 53, line 5 – page 54, line 20 of the specification.

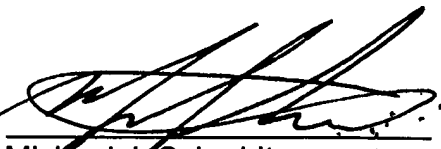
Applicants, without traverse, respectfully request the Examiner to proceed with Species V beginning on page 41, line 8 of the specification. Applicants believe that Claims 1, 6, 7 and 10-12 read on the elected species and that at least Claims 1 and 10 are generic. Applicants request that the non-elected Claims be held in abeyance for possible rejoinder and/or further prosecution in future divisional and/or continuation applications.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this Response is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 20, 2006
HARNES, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303
(248) 641-1600

By. 
Michael J. Schmidt
Reg. No. 34,007

MJS/hmr